

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 IO-14 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DPW-01 DRC-01 /126 W

----- 052650

R 220600Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5456

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMCONSUL CAN THO

CINCPAC

COMUSSAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 4214

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, CB

SUBJ: FANK RECRUITMENT EFFORTS IN VIETNAM

REF: A. PHNOM PENH 3529

B. CAN THO 0103 (NOTAL)

1. COLONEL THACH RENG TOLD US ON MARCH 21 THAT HE ESTIMATED THERE WERE BETWEEN 2,500 TO 3,000 POTENTIAL FANK RECRUITS AMONG THE KHMER REFUGEES HE VISITED IN VIETNAM, ONLY 500 OF WHOM ARE WITHOUT FAMILIES. THACH RENG DID NOT MENTION REOPENING A FRONT ALONG THE VIETNAMESE BORDER WITH THESE RECRUITS. HE STATED INSTEAD THAT THEY WISH TO BE STATIONED AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THEIR ORIGINAL HOMES AND MENTIONED FANK TAKEO AND KAMPOT ENCLAVES AS SUITABLE POSTINGS. HE CONFIRMED, HOWEVER, THAT THESE MEN WOULD PASS THROUGH THE NORMAL FANK PERSONNEL AND TRAINING PIPE-LINE (DESPITE PROPOSAL BY GKR AMBASSADOR TO SAIGON MG POK SAM AN THAT THEY BE TRAINED IN VIETNAM) AND WOULD NOT BE GIVEN SPECIAL TREATMENT.

2. THACH RENG STATED THAT HE HAD ALSO SURVEYED POSSIBILITIES OF RECRUITING KHMER KRON IN VIETNAM AND NOW ESTIMATES
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POTENTIAL VOLUNTEERS AT 3,000.WHILE PRESIDENT THIEU

HAS APPROVED GKR RECRUITMENT OF KHMER KROM, THACH RENG
CLAIMED, ARVN REGIONAL MILITARY COMMANDERS HAVE NOT, AND THE PROJECT
IS CONSEQUENTLY AT A STALEMATE.
ENDERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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